IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : John H. Stevens

Serial No. : 10/047,581 Art Unit : 3738

Filed: 10/23/2001 Examiner: D. Isabella

Title : Devices and Methods for Port-Access Multivessel Coronary Artery Bypass

Surgery

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. \$1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted electronically to the United States Patent & Trademark Office on August 1, 2006

/Brian S. Tomko/

Brian S. Tomko (Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated May 1, 2006, and in connection with the RCE filed on this same date, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.